

think of it. The wood in which ^{it} grows
contains plenty of *fraxiniflorum* and
some cretums. The other species are
not found here. I was greatly disap-
pointed that you did not come to Montreal
last summer and then on to Toronto
where Mr. H & I would have been delighted
to receive you and Mrs. Gray. Have you
studied the *Lesquerena herbaceum*? If
not it will be a new attraction here.
My list of Toronto plants is about good
and I hope to augment it greatly this
summer especially by putting in the
Cyperaceae and Gramineae which I
left to the last excepting a few that
came under my notice and which I knew
well. I shall publish the list in
some form when I think it tolerably
complete of course my number does
not include mosses &c. though I

Toronto May 19. 1888

My dear Dr. Gray,

I have been wanting
to write to you for a long time but during
our session am so closely engaged that I
find little time for any thing but work.
Fortunately the lectures close when the
Spring opens a circumstance not very fa-
vourable for teaching Botany to pupils but
exceedingly so for pursuing and enjoying it one-
self. You know that I obtained for the
University a copy of M. Lesquier's
Mosses. They are very interesting and valuable
and the correspondence with M. Lesquier
which they occasioned led to the purchase
by our University of his whole collection
in which I greatly rejoice. There are above
4000 species in general carefully named and
the habitats marked and some of these are

peculiarly interesting. He collected with the
great advantages both personally and from
his intimacy with some of the greatest European
Botanists who freely contributed. I am taking
very great trouble in mounting the whole
collection on good white paper fastening
the specimens with strips of gum-paper
and writing every thing needed clearly
on the flying leaf of the sheet. I hope
to make it very useful and accessible
and we have had an excellent cabinet
constructed to receive it. Now I want
to augment it from all quarters and
especially to complete the Northern
American flora - I had collected a
great deal myself and the part of Mr
Liquorish's collection procured in America
adds much yet of course we have still
many deficiencies - I have just

gathered a *Willow*, about which I
want your opinion. The leaves are
rather long petioles (about an inch long)
there are sometimes two flowers stalks together
from one woody stalk the flower is white
with a central patch of green - with
no apparent tendency to bend down
The plant is from 16 to 8 inches high
the sepals more expanded (bent back from
the flower) than usual in *Grandiflorum*
and with a small abrupt point -

I met three plants near each other
which I brought into my garden in
the hope of observing them next season
if my life is spared - for I fancied it
might be a monstrous development
though this does not seem very probable
however the plant does not agree with
any of yours so tell me what you

under side. not sharply serrated but almost
twice crenate and the flowers pale - 3
together not many - The expanded flowers
are Spanish bread - My Botany is badly
interrupted by Mrs. Trancher which I
am obliged to combiner with some
of which at times greatly interest me
but which certainly interfere with
my doing what I otherwise should do
at the plants - How does your
Garden get on? Pursk it could have
more zealous patrons - we however
are promised a garden and cannot
set it established - We have the funds
but we are at present building a
magnificent building for the Univer-
sity which delays Mrs. expenditure

Believe me dear Sir
with great regard and kind Complts.
to Mrs. from very truly Yours
William Hooker

am collecting them. I wish I had
found guide to what is known of the
fungi of this country - I am greatly
pleased with your first lessons and
have adopted it as a text book for our
junior class - Let me however express
my great regret that in Lesson XVIII you have
not dropped the vague term pistil used some
times for one or more sometimes for a composition
of several and used the term Carpel
expressly designed to introduce the idea of
a circle of parts - sometimes reduced to one
by suppression - sometimes like the other circles
multiplied and either remaining separate
or with all degrees of coherence - This seems
to me both the true and the clear view
Let pistil retain its Linnæan signification
and Carpel express the modified leaf
entering into the fruit - As your teaching
is really substantially all that can be
wished it is a pity you should cling to
the old language - I am inclined to

adopt Lindley's system - There are points
on which I cannot agree with him but
I like his series on the whole - I particularly
like his subclasses or great sections of *Prospers*
I think his alliance's philosophical in
principle and a great help to the student
So as one must follow some recognized system
and the Vegetable kingdom seems an admirably
planned and peculiarly useful work and
its author occupies a deservedly high position
(though not without his faults) I think it
an improvement to adopt his method - and
I promote its use among my students -
How very beautiful are the figures
illustrating the ferns, charadees
of ferns, mosses and Hepaticae
in your new ed of the Manual
I have lately noticed *Viola rostrata*
common hereabouts but you say June
and July and your dates are generally

too early for us, yet this is now in full
flower - The serrated leaves - pale white
flowers without beards to the petals - the
deeply lobbed and large Sepals and
the long spurs with the anther spurs also
greatly lengthened seem to admit of no
doubt as to the species. I see you now
introduce *Equisetum pratense* (Dumortier)
which is common here - I think
I found the true *Eg. palustre* of
Eur. justifying Pursh for Plate for
hanted that of in Canada it is also
in the States. We have a little less
here (the ones I have noticed were no
higher than shrubs) belonging to the
first section but not *P. pumila* and
differing from Pennsylvania in the
small size of the tree - the leaves being
hairy at least in their young state as the